

# NREL's Renewable Energy Finance Tracking Initiative (REFTI)



# .Q4 2010 Summary

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May 18, 2011

### Housekeeping

Webinar: Got audio?

Call-in number: 800-857-9878

participant access code: 2744909

 Presentation, webinar recording, and aggregated spreadsheet data will be made available at NREL's new RE Finance website:

http://financere.nrel.gov/

## **Agenda**

- Intro to REFTI Program
  - Background/Vision
- Q4 2010 Questionnaire Results
  - Will generally follow REFTI questionnaire progression
  - Technology Breakout
  - Aggregate results from Q4 '09 Q4 '10
  - Trend analysis across multiple quarters
- Question & Answer
  - Submit via internet conference and we will respond at the end

### **Data Confidentiality**

- Ensuring REFTI data confidentiality critical to NREL
- Data gathered through REFTI will only be utilized for:
  - Providing aggregate values for model inputs
  - Reporting trends
  - Participant-specific data will not be utilized or distributed in any way
- Non-disclosure agreements are available
  - Executing an NDA is fully voluntary
  - 3 12 month NDAs are available
- Please let us know if you have any concerns over data provided through this webinar
  - Slides will not be made available immediately to allow time to raise concerns

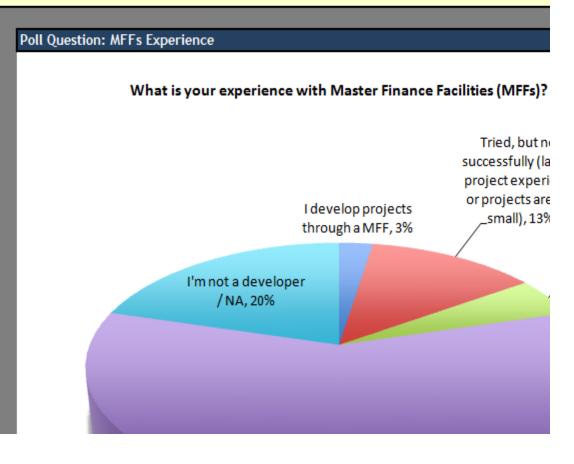
#### **Caveats**

- This is a summary of data as reported by REFTI participants
- In general, data provided was not validated by NREL
- Potential concerns:
  - Duplicate data
  - Definition of "financial closure"
  - Small sample size

## **Revised Spreadsheet Format**

Poll Question: What is your experience with Master Finance Facilities (MFFs)?

| MFFs Experience  |               |                   |  |
|--|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Answer Options   | Response<br>% | Response<br>Count |  |
| I develop projects<br>through a MFF  | 3%            | 1                 |  |
| Tried, but not<br>successfully (lack of<br>project experience or<br>projects are too<br>small) | 13%           | 5                 |  |
| Tried, but not<br>successfully (my<br>technology is<br>considered too risky)                   | 5%            | 2                 |  |
| Never heard of them  | 59%           | 23                |  |
| I'm not a developer /<br>NA  | 21%           | 8                 |  |
| Comments   |               | 3                 |  |
|  | 100%          | 39                |  |



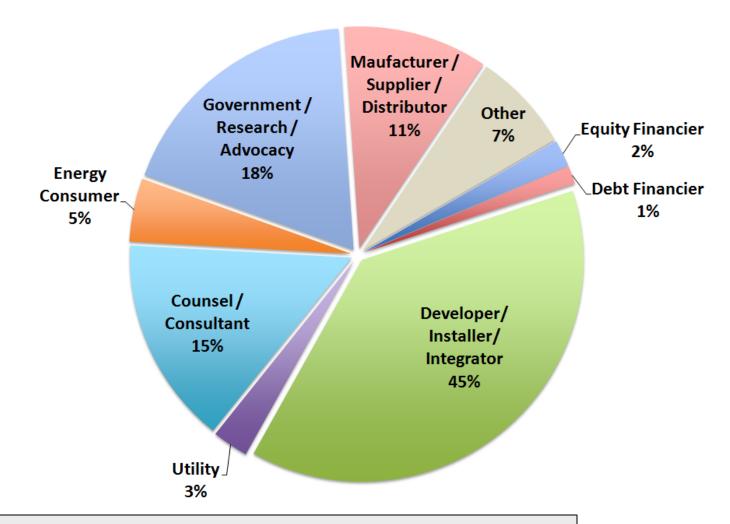
#### **Potential Revised REFTI process**

- Semi-annual process (away from quarterly)
- Much shorter questionnaire
  - De-emphasizing behind the meter projects, construction finance, loan guarantees
- Altered question ordering:
  - Primary questions up front
  - More required answers
- NREL seeking feedback:
  - How do you use dataset?
  - Would semi-annual process improve chance of participation?
  - Do you trust NREL to hold data confidentially?
  - If you'd like to be part of beta test, let us know

#### **Table of Contents**

- REFTI participants & their project portfolios & investments
- Behind the meter projects end-user & economic return
- Financial structure and form of incentive and depreciation taken
- REC and PPA contract terms
- Tax and Developer Equity ratios and exp. returns
- Term debt
- Installed and levelized costs
- Bonus questions

#### Participation: Q4'10 Firm Composition



152 people entered the questionnaire; 119 left contact info.

Developer / Installer / Integrator represented largest segment with 45%

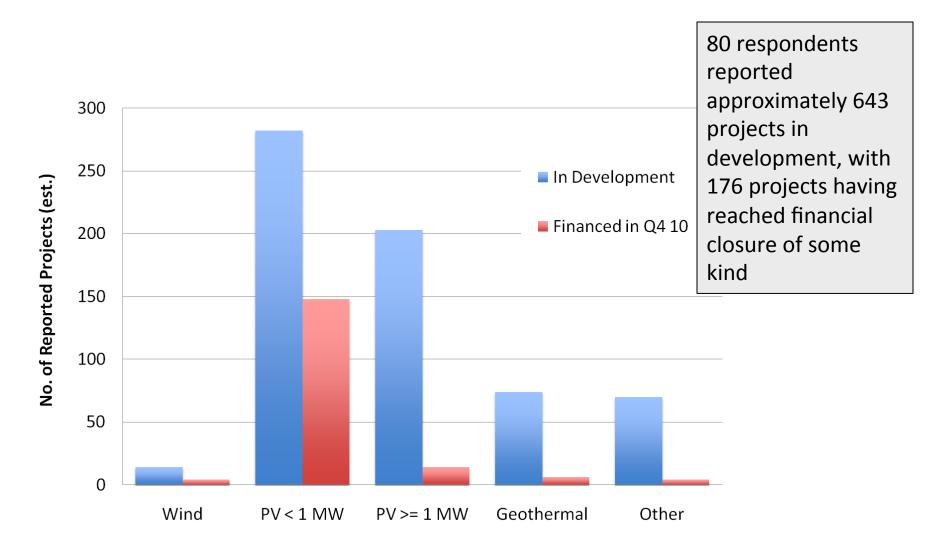


## REFTI Questionnaire: Q3 (p. 2 – project info)

3. Please tell us about your projects IN DEVELOPMENT and those that CLOSED FINANCING in Q4 2010...

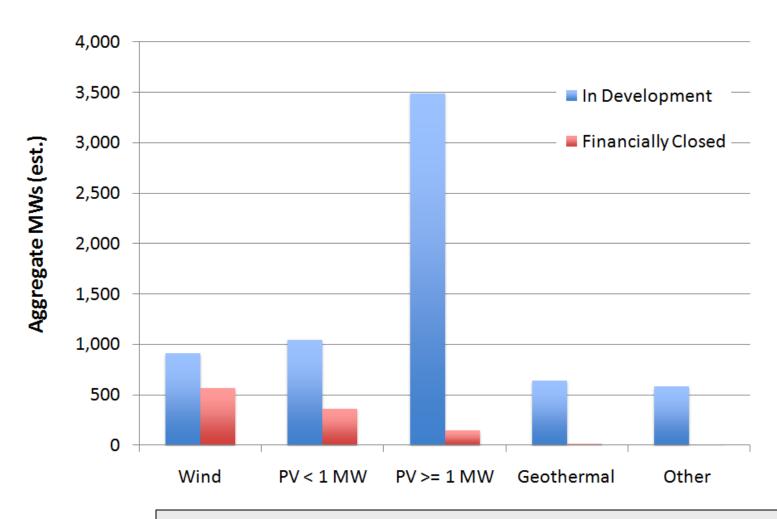
\*\*\* Note: new MW bins \*\*\* Aggregate Capacity No. of Projects Aggregate Capacity Form of Financial No. of Projects in in Development Financially Closed Financially Closed Development Closure (gross kW / MW) (gross kW / MW) (Q3) Wind Solar - PV (< 1 MW) v Solar - PV (>= 1 MW) ٧ Solar - CSP Y Solar Thermal (non-elec) Geothermal Biomass - Elec Biomass - Non-elec Hydro Other Technologies Comments

#### **Number of RE Projects Reported**





## Capacity of Projects Reported (MWs)



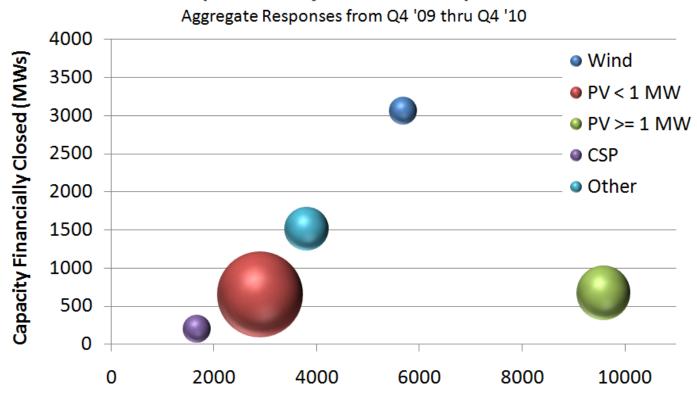


Roughly 6,670 MW in development by REFTI participants with 1,090 MW reaching financial closure of some kind.

\*\* Values estimated based on mid-point of questionnaire bins

#### **Projects Development Reported via REFTI**

#### **Reported Projects in Development**

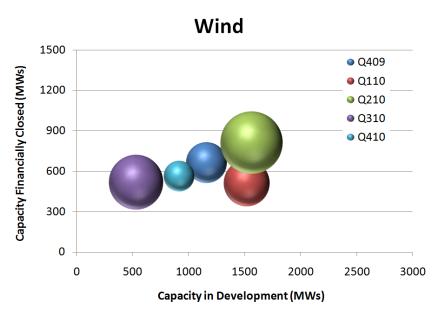


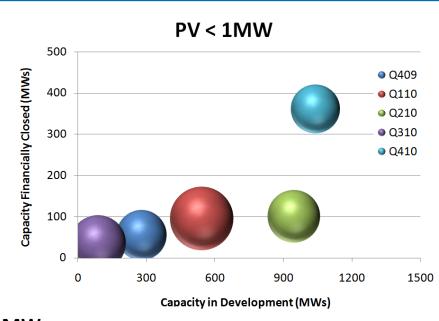
Capacity in Development (MWs)

During last 5 quarters of REFTI, participants reported 6,000 MW of wind in development and 3,000 MW closed financially. Large PV had close to 10,000 MW in development, but only 750 MW closed financially

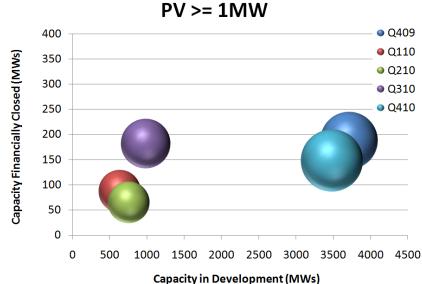


#### **Projects in Development - Trend**



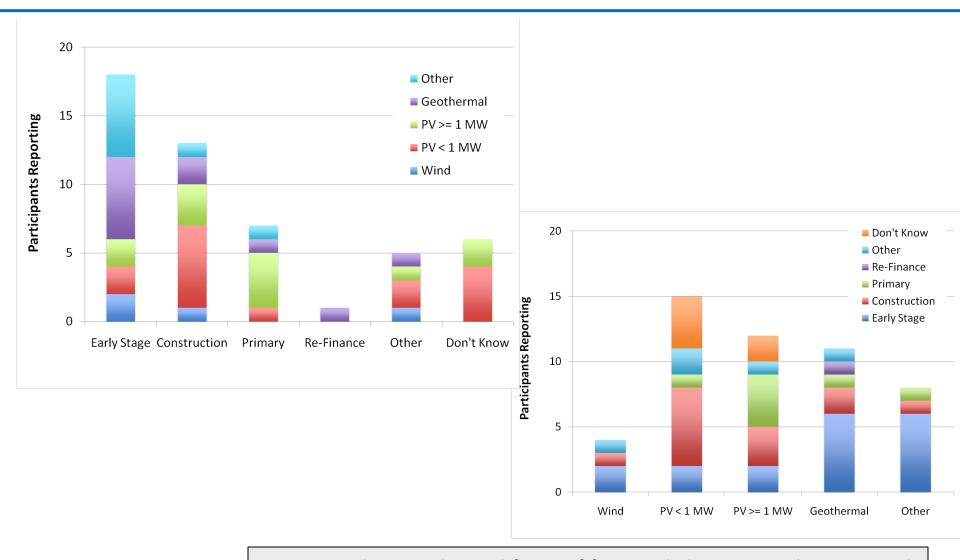


Good
representation for
PV in Q4 '10.
Geothermal, other
technologies also
improving
representation
although still very
small





#### **Form of Financial Closure**





50 respondents indicated form of financial closure. Early stage and construction financing widely reported

#### **REFTI Questionnaire: Q4**

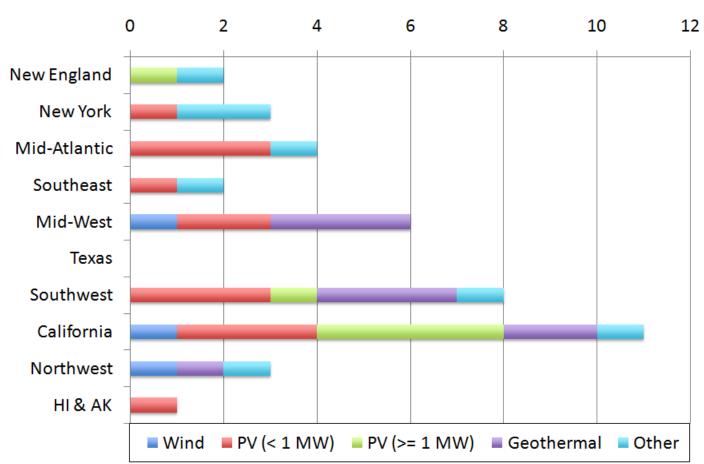
4. For projects that closed in Q4 2010, please tell us the PRIMARY LOCATION, POWER PURCHASER, and the TOTAL and DIRECT INVESTMENT...

| Note: new \$ bins            |                |  |  |   |
|------------------------------|----------------|--|--|---|
|                              | Primary Region | Primary Power Purchaser (i.e.,<br>Power Sold To) | Total Cost of Combined<br>Projects (\$ millions) | Your Total Direct<br>Investment (\$ millions) |
| Wind                         | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)          | ~              | <b>~</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)         | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Solar - CSP                  | ~              | ~  | ~  | ~   |
| Solar Thermal (non-<br>elec) | ~              | ~  | ~  | ~   |
| Geothermal                   | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Biomass - Elec               | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Biomass - Non-elec           | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Hydro                        | ~              | <b>v</b>   | ~  | ~   |
| Other Technologies           | ~              | ~  | ~  | ~   |
| Comments                     |                |  |  |   |
|                              |                |  | ^  |   |



### Financial Closures by Region



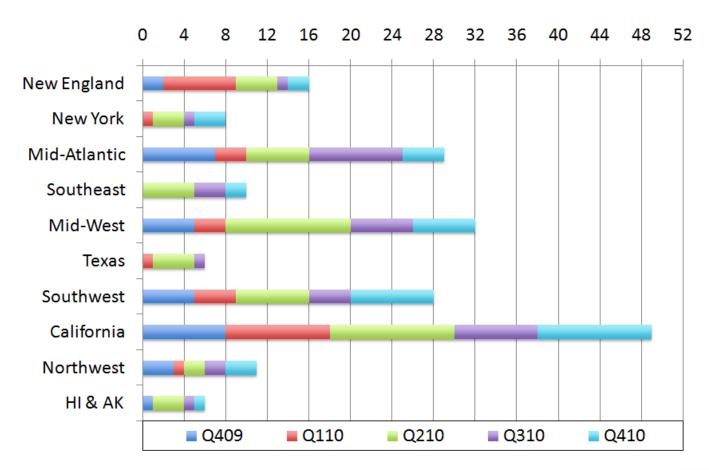


High number of REFTI participants reporting on projects in CA and southwest. All regions represented except Texas (40 total participants).



## Financial Closures by Region – Trend

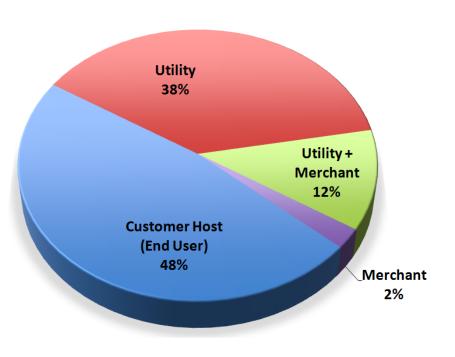
#### Trend Analysis from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



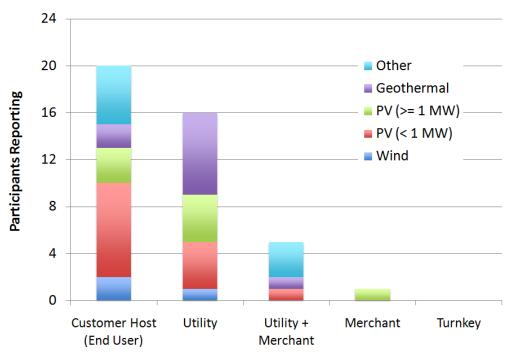
Across last 5 quarters, CA holds most projects; Mid-West and Mid-Atlantic also leading in representation



#### **Primary Power Purchaser**



Almost half of projects reported signed PPA with customer host. About 40% reported PPAs with utilities. Essentially no merchant or turnkey sales reported

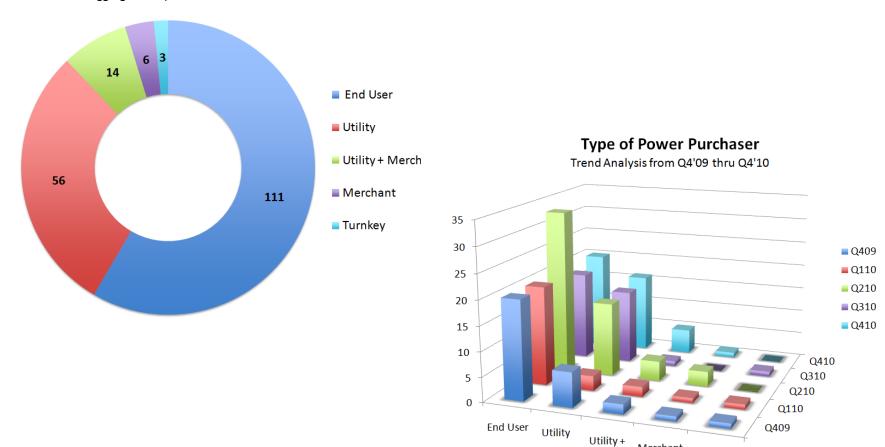




#### Primary Power Purchaser – Aggregate & Trend



Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Most projects reported signed PPA with customer host. PPA with utility second most common transaction type

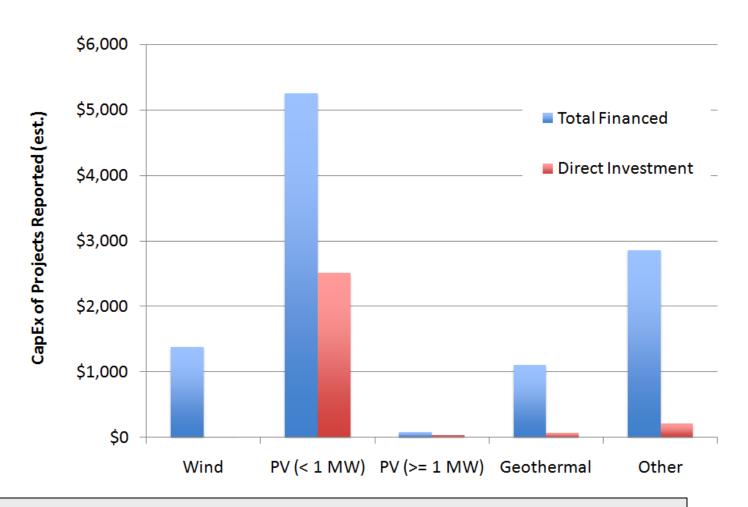


Merchant

Merchant

Turnkey

## Capital Expenditure Reported (\$MM)



REFTI participants reported \$10.7 B of projects in development, \$2.8 B of direct finance coming from REFTI participants.

\*\* Values estimated based on mid-point of questionnaire bins



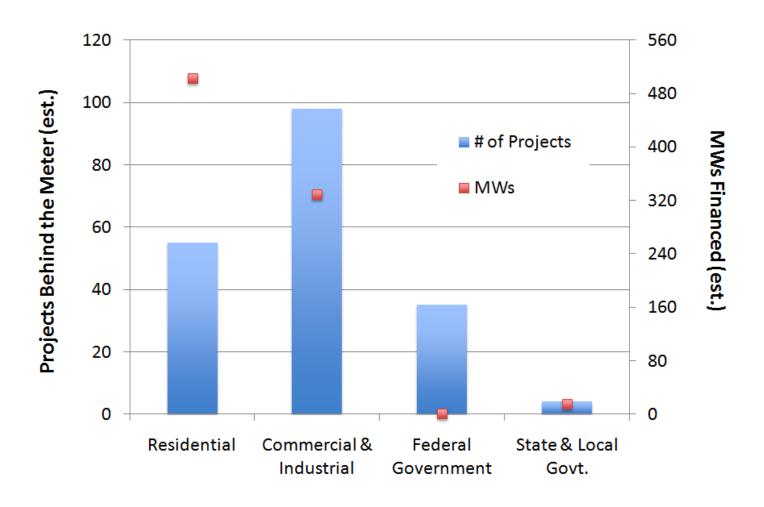
#### **REFTI Questionnaire: Q5**

5. For your projects that are BEHIND-THE-METER, please tell us about the customer host (end user)...

|                            | Number of Deals | Nameplate<br>Capacity<br>(aggregate MW) | Typical Customer<br>Financing Structure | Avg. Customer<br>Payback (yrs) | Avg. Customer<br>Discount Rate (%) |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Residential                | ~               | ~                                       | ~                                       | ~                              | ~                                  |
| Commercial &<br>Industrial | ~               | ~                                       | ~                                       | ~                              | ~                                  |
| Federal Government         | ~               | ~                                       | ~                                       | ~                              | ~                                  |
| State & Local Govt.        | ~               | ~                                       | ~                                       | ~                              | ~                                  |
| Comments                   |                 |   |   |                                |                                    |
|                            |                 |   |   | ^ ~                            |                                    |



### No. & MWs of Projects with Customer Host



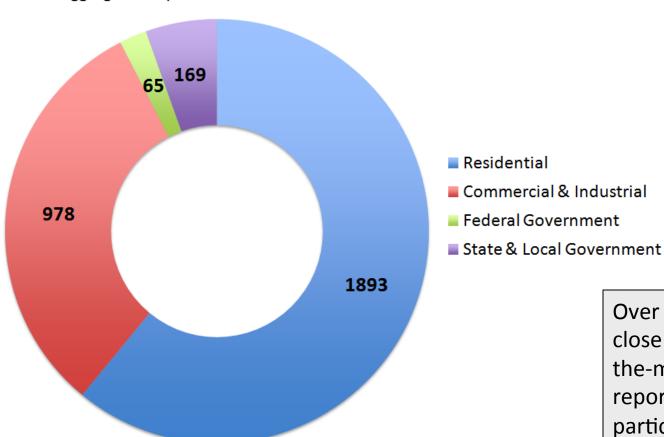
Roughly 192 projects, representing 849 MW, reported with customer host. 25 participants responding. \*\* Values estimated based on midpoint of questionnaire



#### **Behind-Meter Projects by Sector - Aggregate**

#### Approx. # of Projects Reported

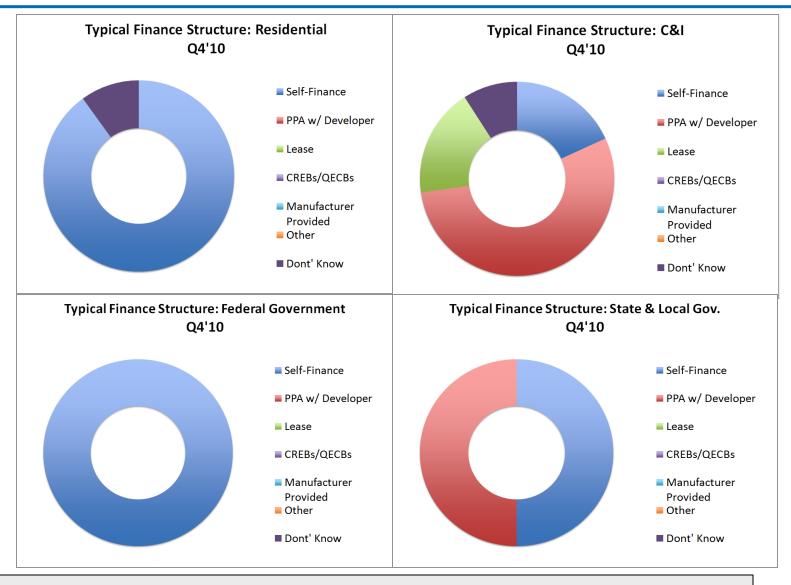
Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Over last 5 quarters, close to 3,000 behind-the-meter projects reported by REFTI participants, almost 2/3 residential



#### Form of Customer Host Financing

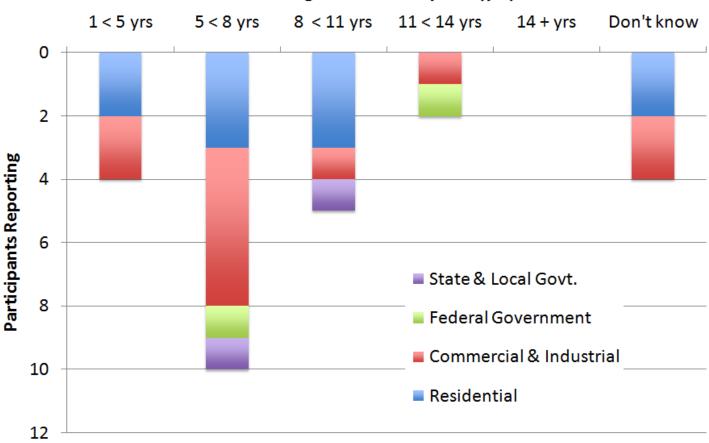


REFTI participants reporting C&I deals primarily financed via PPA with developer



## **Customer Host Payback (Yrs)**

#### Average Customer Payback (yrs)



Most projects have payback less than 8 years. Still very few deals at Federal level reported.



#### **Customer Host Discount Rate**



Customer discount had very broad range this quarter (was tighter in prior quarters). Fairly high "don't knows" as expected



## REFTI Questionnaire: Page 2, Q4 (Q6)

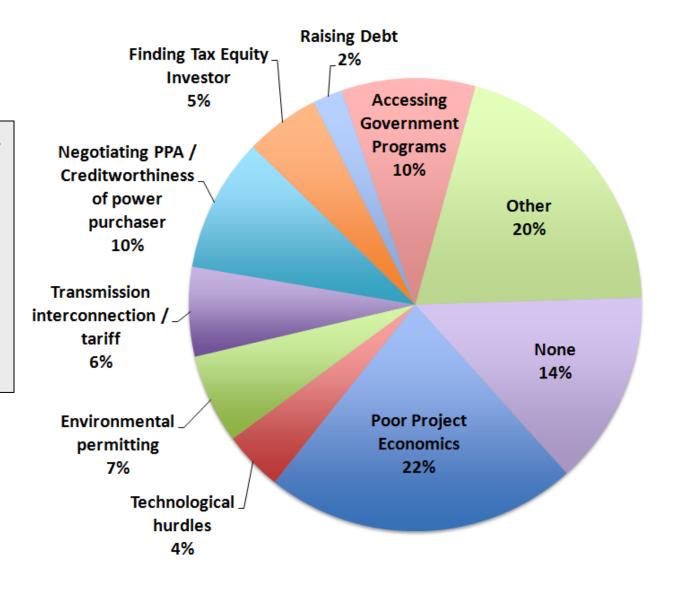
#### 6. What was the LARGEST BARRIER to RE project development and how did it impact your projects

|                              | Barrier  | Impact   |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Wind                         |          | <u> </u> |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)          |          | <b>~</b> |
| Solar - PV (>= 1<br>MW)      |          | ~        |
| Solar - CSP                  |          | <b>~</b> |
| Solar Thermal (non-<br>elec) |          | ~        |
| Geothermal                   | <u> </u> | <b>~</b> |
| Biomass - Elec               |          | <b>V</b> |
| Biomass - Non-elec           | <u> </u> | <b>~</b> |
| Hydro                        |          | <b>V</b> |
| Other Technologies           | <u> </u> | <b>~</b> |
| Comments                     |          |          |
|                              |          | ^ ~      |



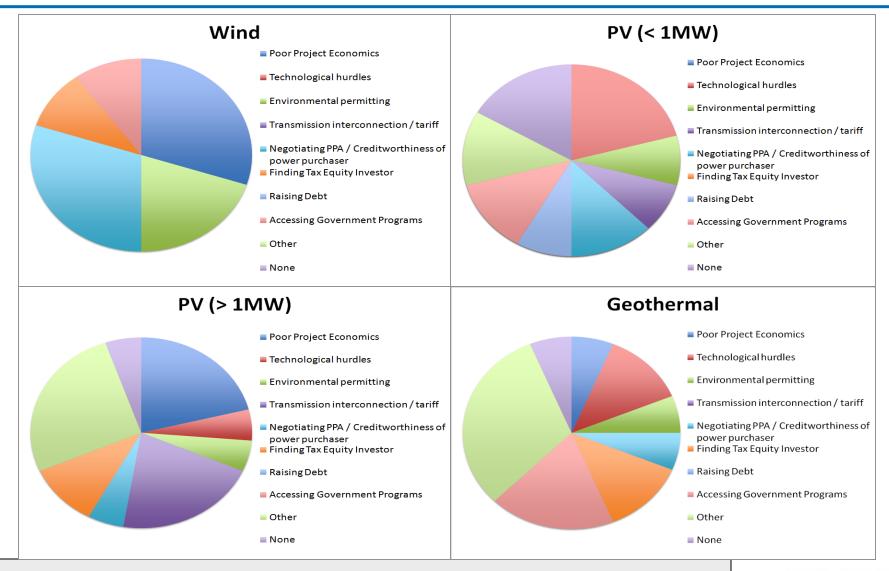
## **Largest Barriers to RE Development**

Far lower financingrelated barriers referenced by respondents. Poor project economics makes up significant fraction. Also 20% referenced "Other"





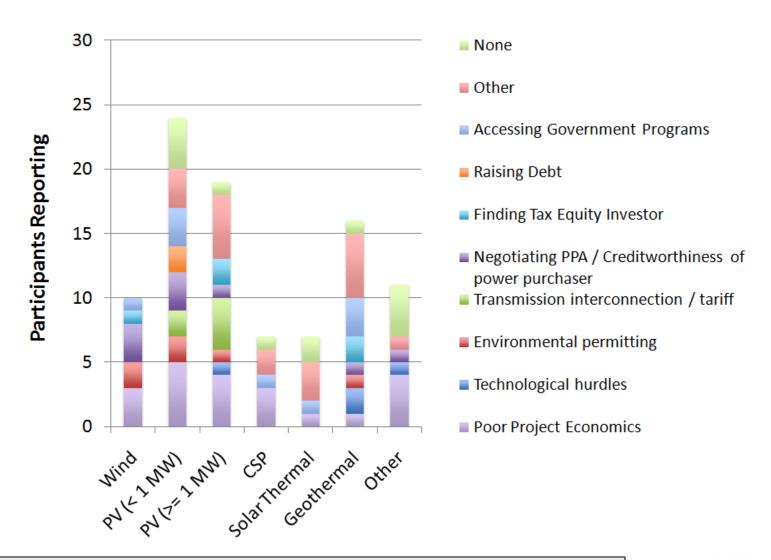
#### **Largest Barriers – Tech Breakout**



Wind hindered by poor project economics and negotiating PPA; Large PV transmission interconnection, geothermal accessing govt. programs, other



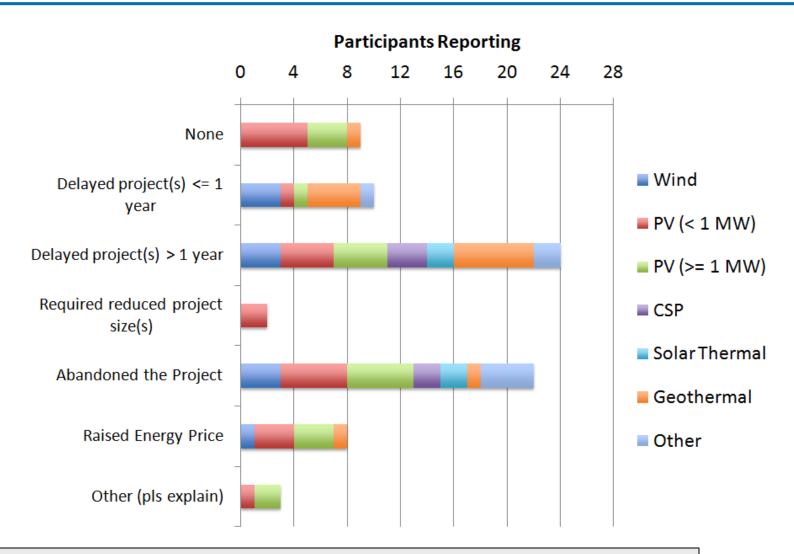
#### **Largest Barriers – Tech Breakout**



No single barrier dominating – more of series of issues to overcome



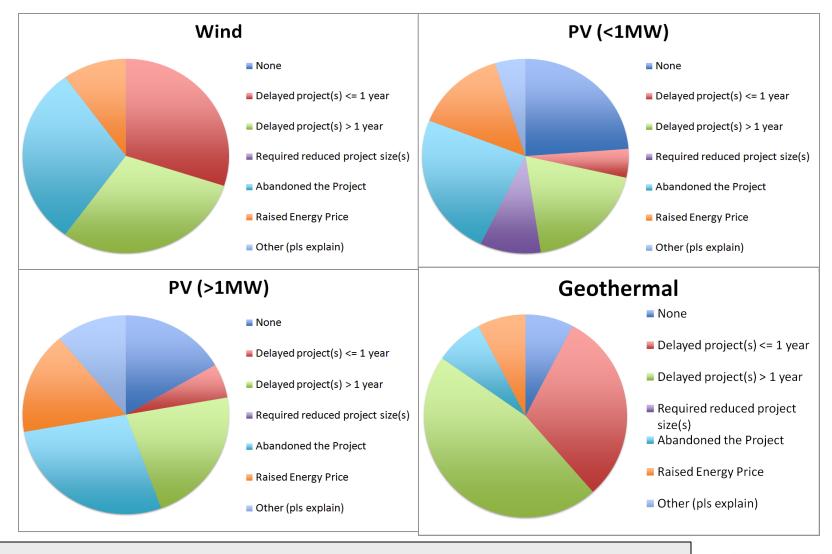
## **Consequence of Development Barrier(s)**



Most common consequence was extended project delay (> 1 year) and project abandonment



#### **Consequence of Barriers – Tech Breakout**



Project abandonment commonly referenced by wind, and small and large PV. Geothermal projects commonly delayed more than 1 year



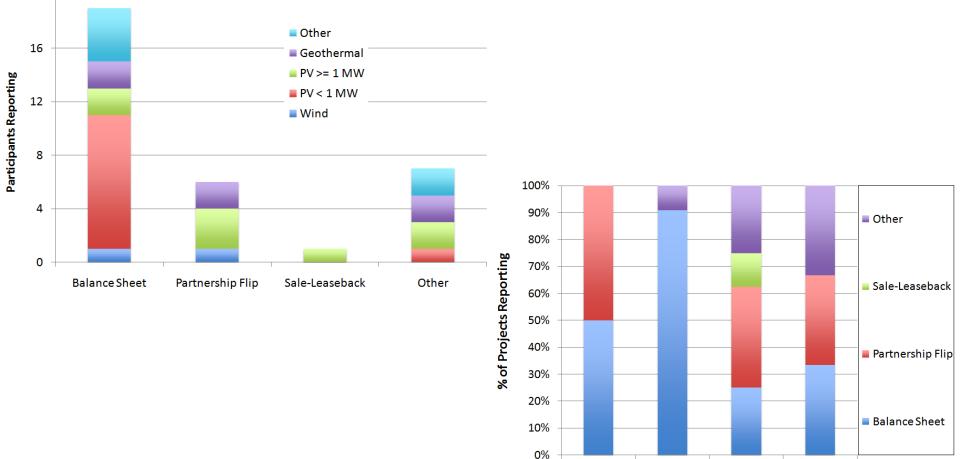
### REFTI Questionnaire: Q7 (p. 3 – Financing)

7. Select the primary typical FINANCIAL STRUCTURE characteristics of your projects that closed in prior quarter...

|                          | Financial Structure | Depreciation | Federal Incentive | State Incentive |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Wind                     | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)      | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)     | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Solar - CSP              | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Solar Thermal (non-elec) | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Geothermal               | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Biomass - Elec           | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Biomass - Non-elec       | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Hydro                    | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Other Technologies       | ~                   | ~            | ~                 | ~               |
| Comments                 |                     |              |                   |                 |
|                          |                     |              | ,                 | <u>^</u>        |



## Financial Structure of Projects Reported



Balance sheet finance still critical for smaller projects; partnership flip more relevant for larger projects



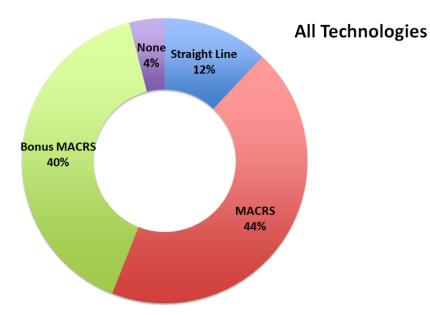
20

Wind

PV < 1 MW

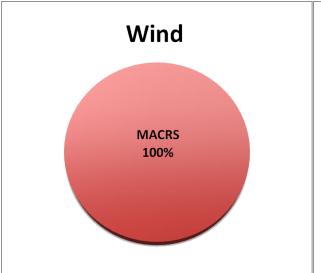
PV >= 1 MW Geothermal

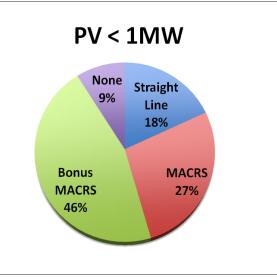
## Form of Depreciation Taken

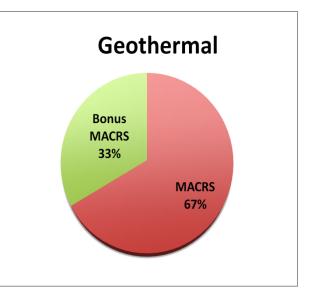


CONREL NATIONAL DENEWARD E ENERGY LARORATORY

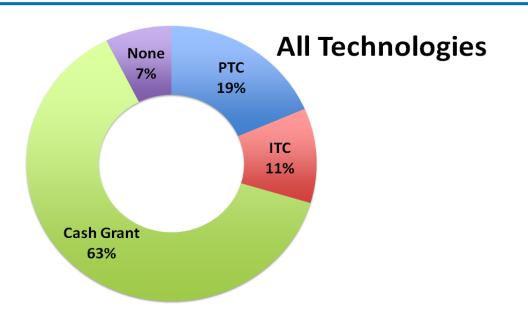
Bonus and regular MACRS evenly reported. Geothermal projects reporting use of MACRS







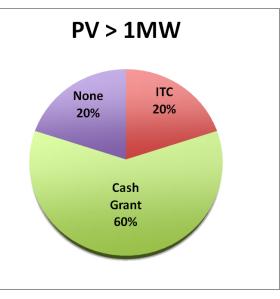
### Form of Federal Incentive Taken

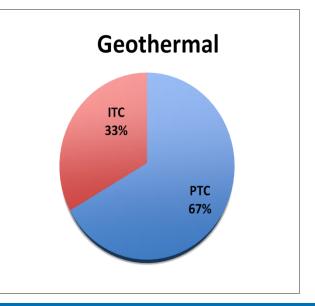




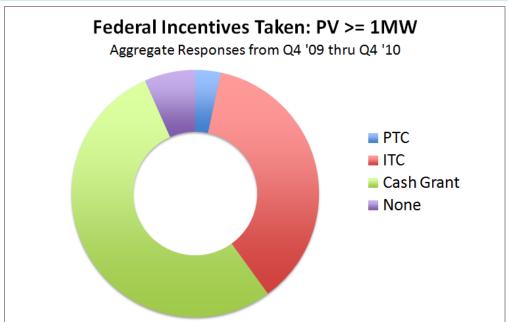
Cash grants served as primary form of federal incentive, but not for geothermal projects reporting



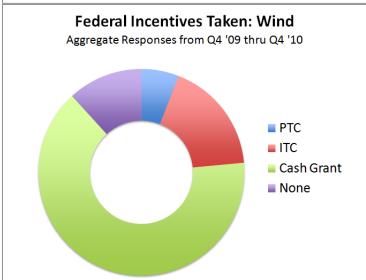


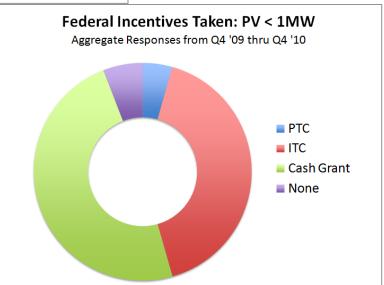


## Federal Incentive Taken – Aggregate Analysis

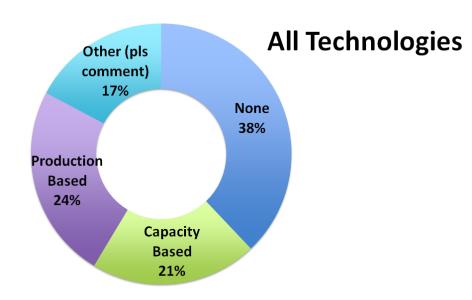


Cash grant represents form of roughly half of the federal incentive taken over last 5 quarters of REFTI



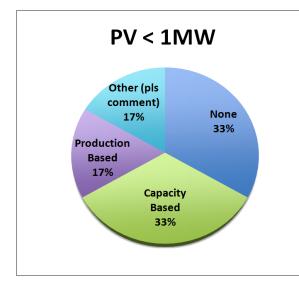


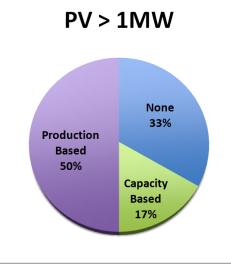
### Form of State Incentive Taken

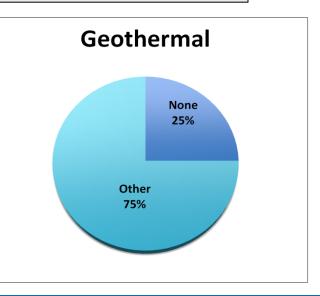




REFTI participants report about 6 in 10 receive some form of state incentive, split by capacity-based incentives, production-based incentives, and other







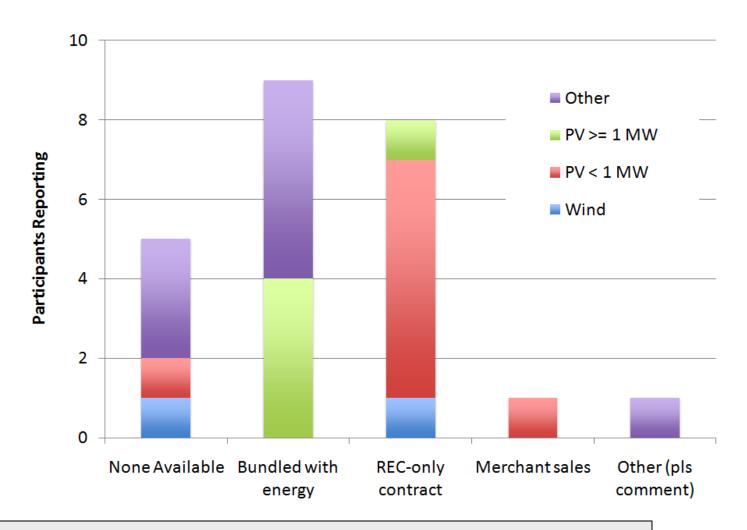
## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q8**

8. Provide the typical expected method of REC Sales, REC Type, REC Contract Duration, and REC-only price (if applicable) by technology...

|                              | REC Sales | REC Type | REC Contract Term<br>(yrs) | REC-only Price<br>(\$/MWh) |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Wind                         | ~         | <u> </u> | ~                          | ~                          |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)          | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)         | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Solar - CSP                  | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Solar Thermal (non-<br>elec) | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Geothermal                   | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Biomass - Elec               | ~         | <u> </u> | ~                          | ~                          |
| Biomass - Non-elec           | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Hydro                        | ~         | <b>~</b> | ~                          | ~                          |
| Other Technologies           | ~         | ~        | ~                          | ~                          |
| Comments                     |           |          | ^                          |                            |



### Form of REC Sales

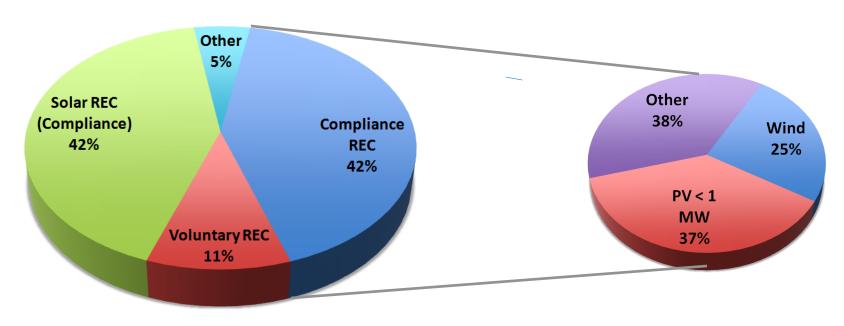


RECs most commonly bundled with energy, but REC only contracts quite relevant, especially for small PV



### **Breakdown of RECs Sold**

### **All Technologies**



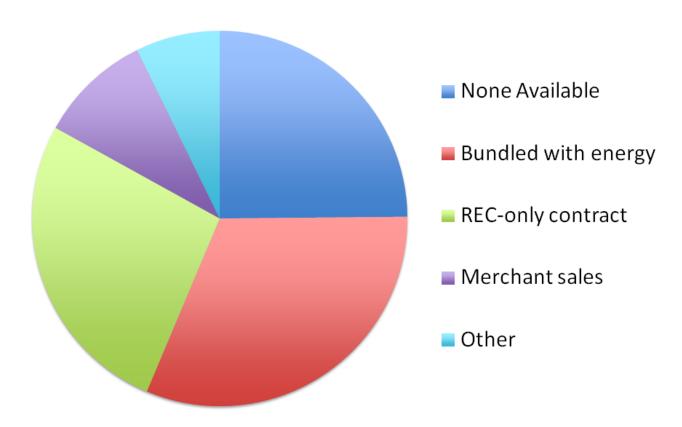
Solar RECs and technology-agnostic RECs were most relevant form of REC among REFTI participants



## Form of REC Sales – Aggregate

#### Form of REC Sales: All Technologies

Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 - Q4 '10

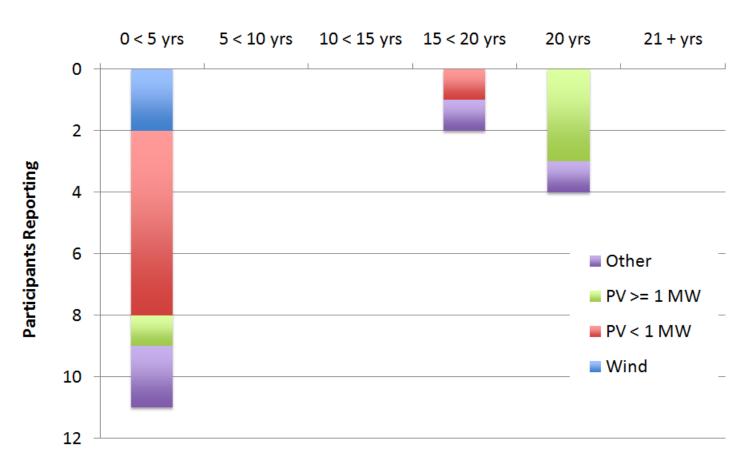


Over last 5 quarters, RECs were most commonly bundled with energy, as REC-only contracts, and none available



### **REC Contract Duration**

#### **REC Contract Duration**



REC contracts generally very short-term (< 5 years)

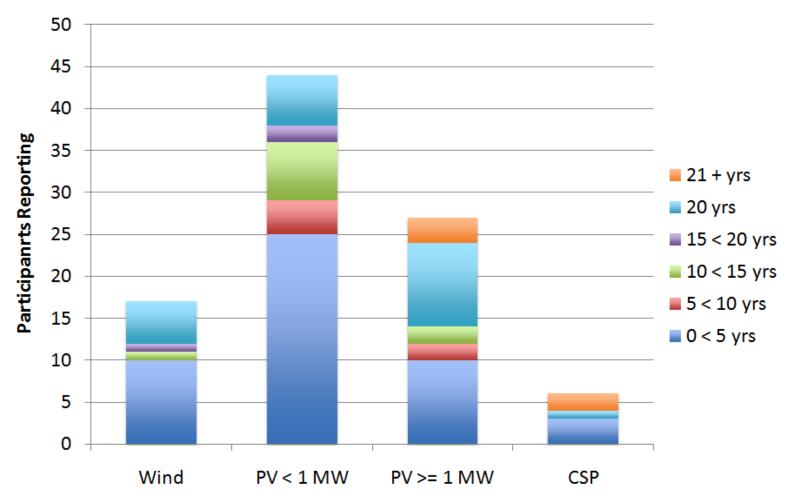


## **REC Duration – Aggregate Analysis**

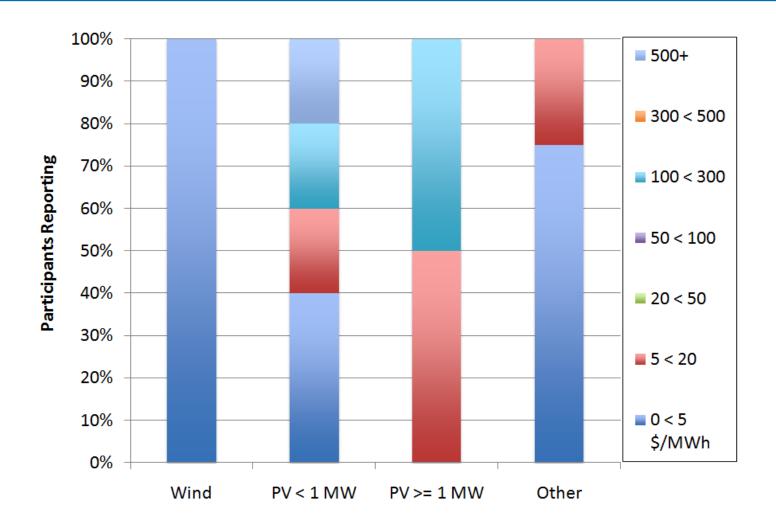
#### REC Contract Term

Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 - Q4 '10

**REC** duration most commonly < 5 years over prior 5 quarters, but 20 year contracts very relevant especially for large PV



# **REC-Only Price (\$/MWh)**



Scaled to 100%. Small PV REC prices range from < \$5 /MWh to over \$500/MWh



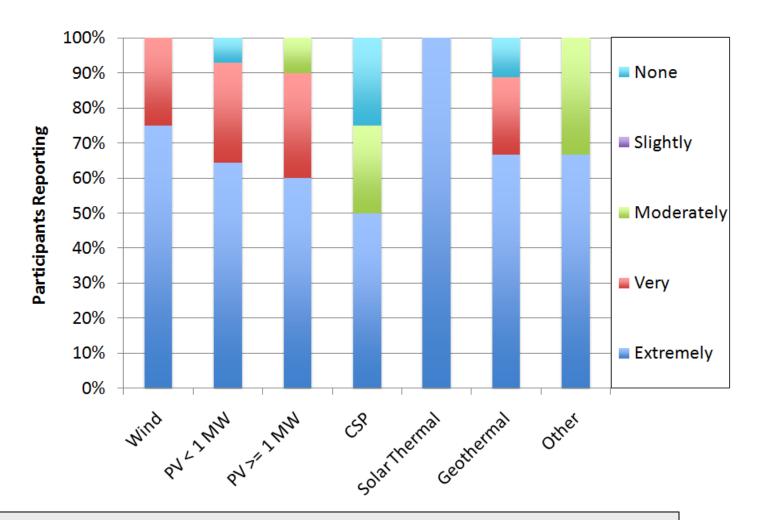
## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q9**

9. Please comment on the IMPORTANCE of different INCENTIVE PROGRAMS to developing your projects...

|                          | Treasury Grants | State Incentives | Renewable Portfolio<br>Standards (REC<br>purchase) | Loan Guarantees |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|-----------------|
| Wind                     | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)      | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)     | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Solar - CSP              | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Solar Thermal (non-elec) | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Geothermal               | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Biomass - Elec           | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Biomass - Non-elec       | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Hydro                    | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Other Technologies       | ~               | ~                | ~  | ~               |
| Comments                 |                 |                  |  |                 |
|                          |                 |                  | ^  |                 |



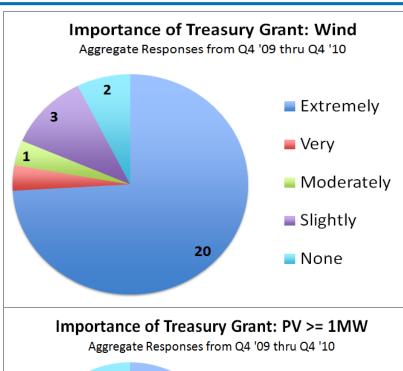
## **Importance of Treasury Grants**

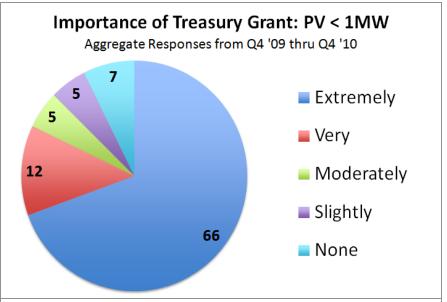


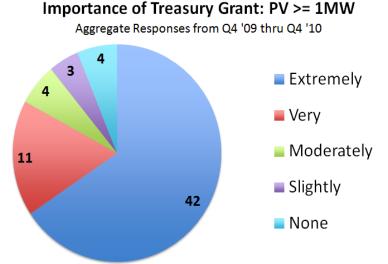
Scaled to 100%. Treasury Grants continue to be considered extremely or very important for all technologies. Some in development of CSP and other technologies did indicate no importance of Treasury Grants

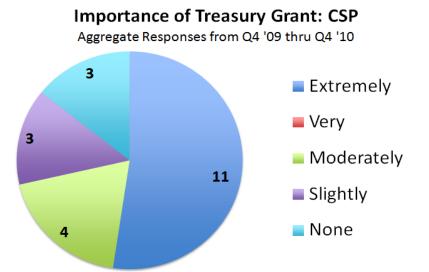


### **Treasury Grant Importance – Aggregate by Tech**

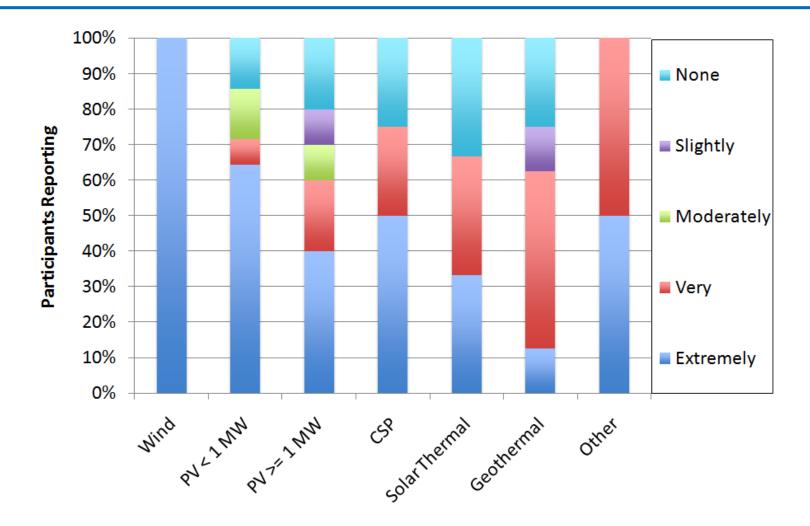








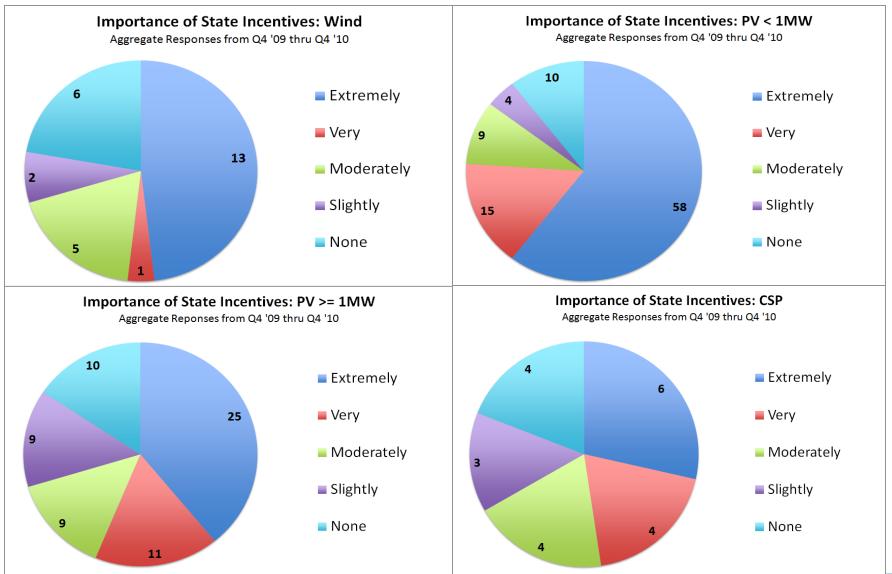
## **Importance of State Incentives**



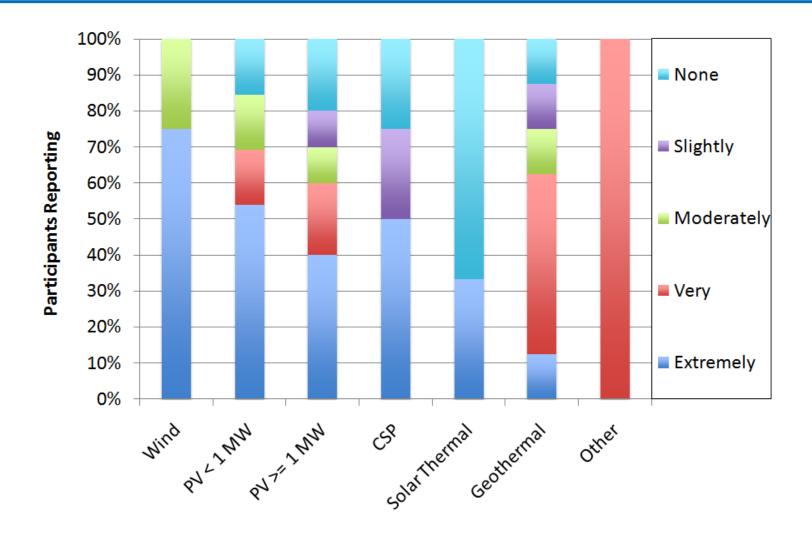
Scaled to 100%. State incentives continue to be considered extremely or very important for most REFTI respondents



### Importance of State Incentives – Aggregate by Tech



## Importance of Portfolio Standards



Scaled to 100%. Portfolio standards not important to solar thermal



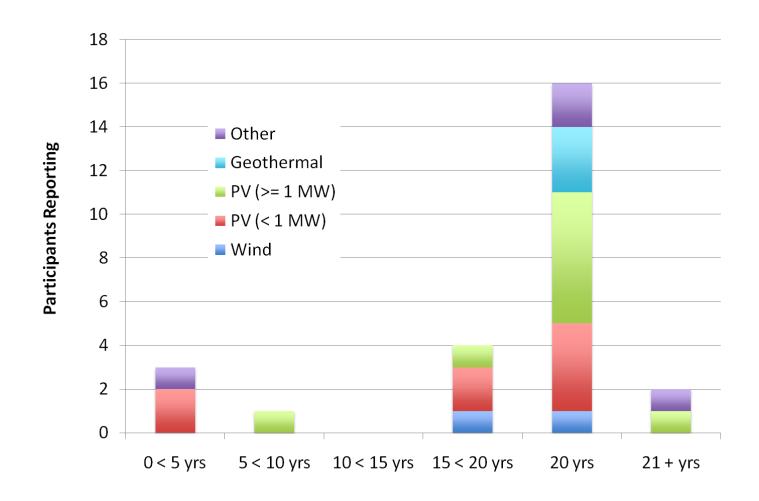
## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q10**

10. Please provide the following parameters to the typical Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) used in prior quarter...

|                          | PPA Term (yrs) | Yr. 1 PPA Price (¢/kWh) | PPA Price Escalation (%) | Customer Buyout Option (yrs) |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Wind                     | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)      | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)     | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Solar - CSP              | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Solar Thermal (non-elec) | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Geothermal               | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Biomass - Elec           | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Biomass - Non-elec       | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Hydro                    | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Other Technologies       | ~              | ~                       | ~                        | ~                            |  |
| Comments                 |                |                         |                          |                              |  |
|                          |                |                         | 4                        | ^                            |  |



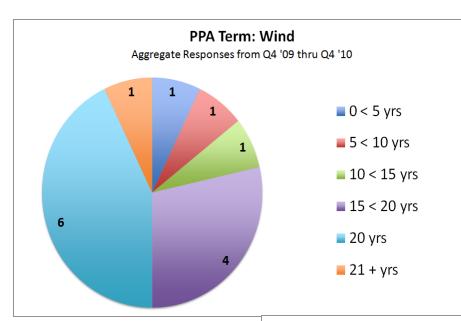
## **Typical PPA Duration**

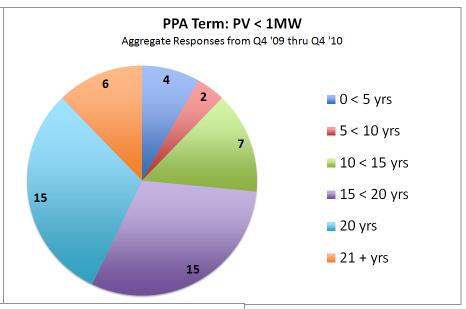


PPA duration heavily weighted towards 20 year periods

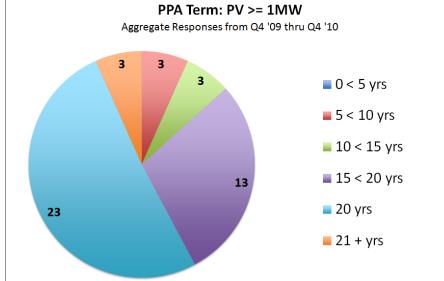


## **Typical PPA Duration – Aggregate Tech Breakout**



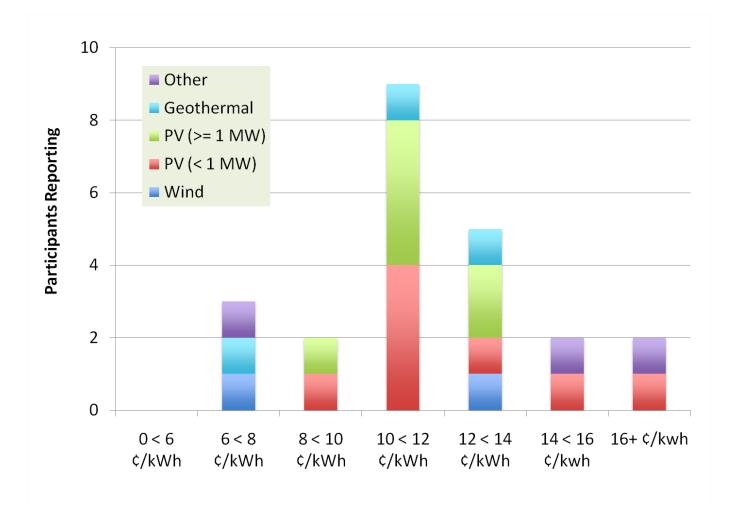


Wind and large PV most commonly with 20 year PPAs. All technologies show some very short PPAs





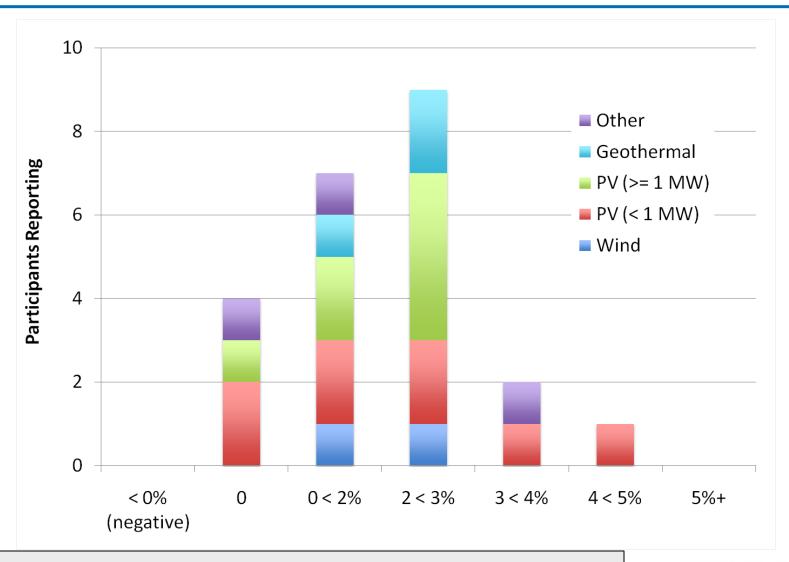
### **PPA Price - Year 1**



PPA prices most commonly in the 10-12 cent/kWh range. Small and large PV indicated prices < 10 cents. Values likely highly dependent on resource and state-specific incentives



## **PPA Price Escalation**



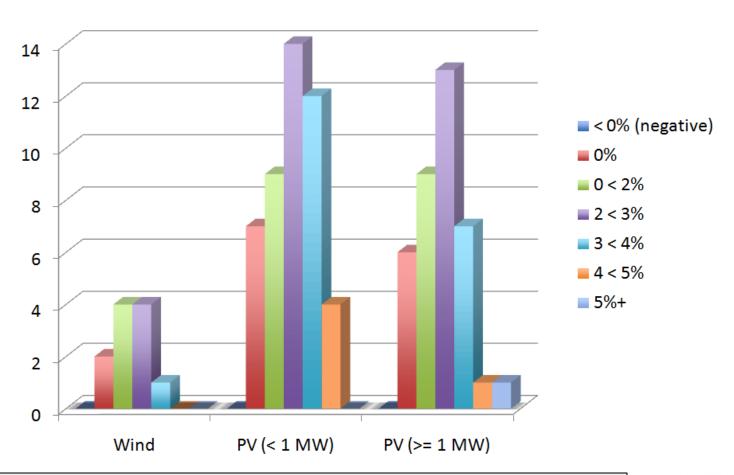
Most PPA contracts escalate at some rate, usually in 2-3% range across all technologies. 3+% inflation becoming less common



## **PPA Price Escalation - Aggregate**

#### **PPA Price Escalation**

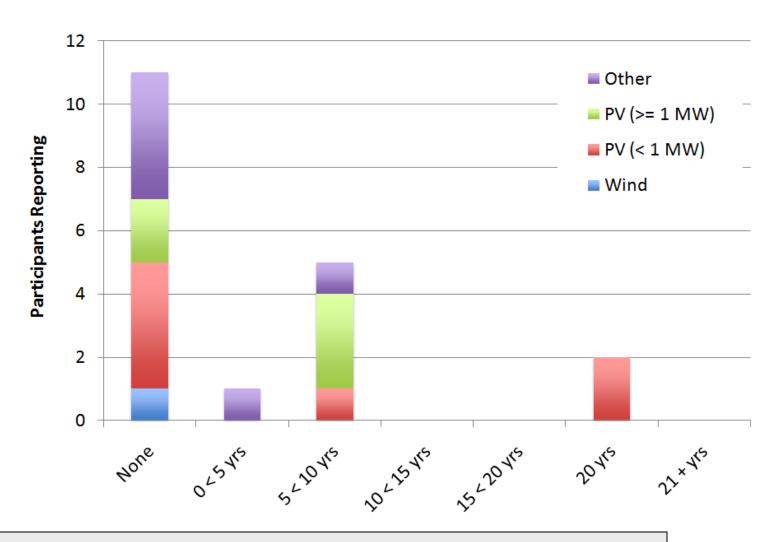
Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Price escalation by technology of all REFTI respondents over last 5 quarters. Y axis represents # of participants reporting



# **PPA Customer Buyout Option**



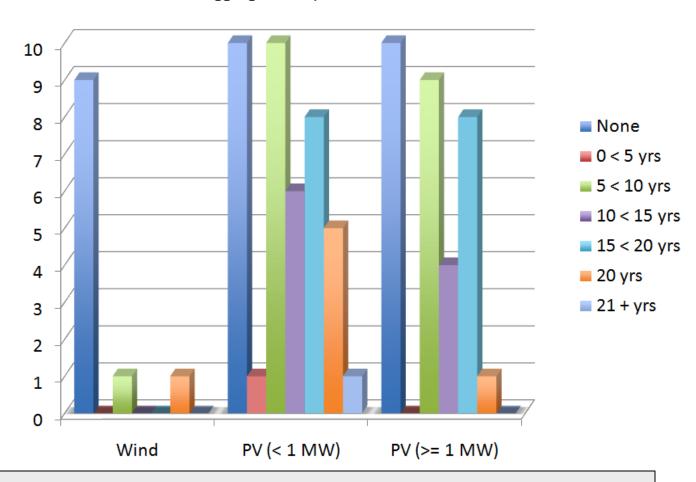
Large number of respondents indicate no customer buyout is available, remainder say buyout most commonly in 5<10 yr range



# **PPA Customer Buyout Option - Aggregate**

#### **PPA Buyout Option**

Aggregate Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Across past 5 quarters, wind projects largely had no buyout option; small and large PV most commonly in the 5-10 year range when avail.



## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q11**

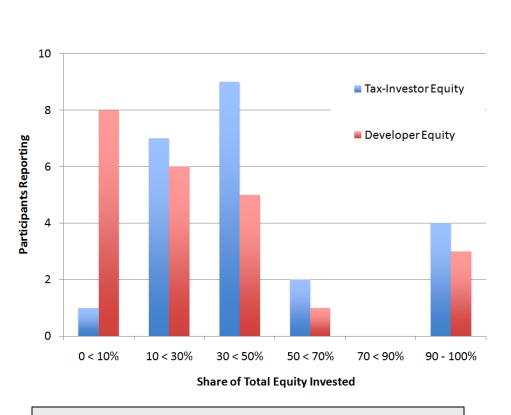
11. Regarding project EQUITY CAPITAL (based on after-tax returns), please tell us how your projects are generally structured...

|                          | Ratio of Tax-Investor<br>Equity / Total Capital | Expected Return on Tax-<br>Investor Equity | Ratio of Developer<br>Equity / Total Capital | Expected Return on<br>Developer Equity |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Wind                     | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)      | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)     | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Solar - CSP              | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Solar Thermal (non-elec) | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Geothermal               | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Biomass - Elec           | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Biomass - Non-elec       | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Hydro                    | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Other Technologies       | ~   | ~  | ~  | ~                                      |
| Comments                 |   |  |  |  |
|                          |   |  | ^  |  |



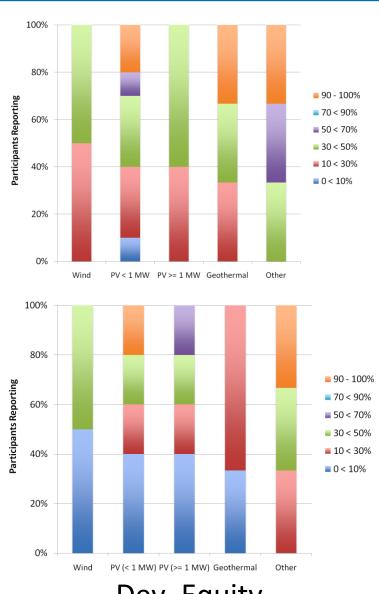
# **Equity Ratios – Q4 '10**

### Tax Equity



Tax and Developer equity primarily each less than 50% of total capital invested



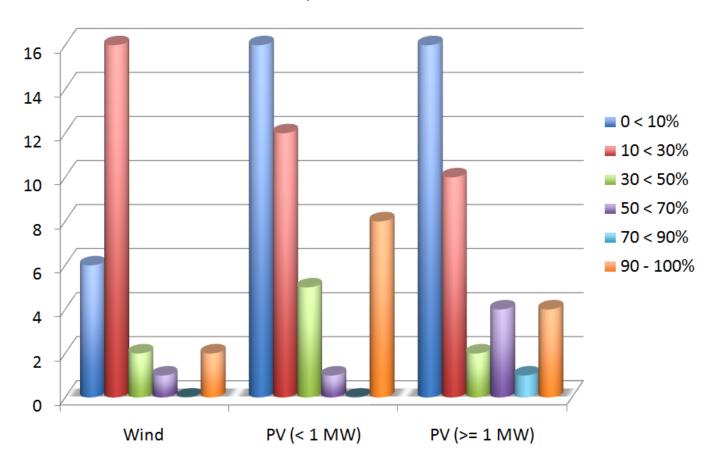


Dev. Equity

# Developer Eq. to Total Capital - Aggregate

#### Ratio of Developer Equity to Total Capital

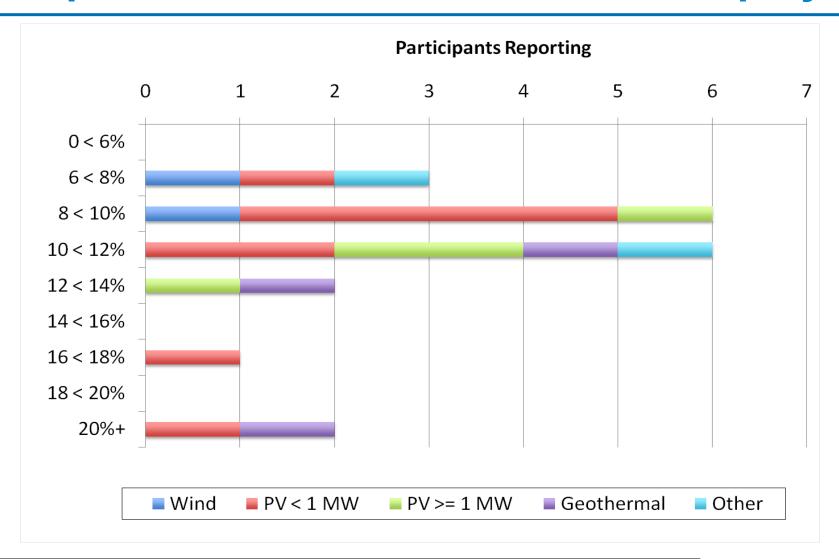
Cumulative Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Over prior 5 quarters, developer equity primarily represented 0-10% of project capital for small and large PV, 10-30% for wind



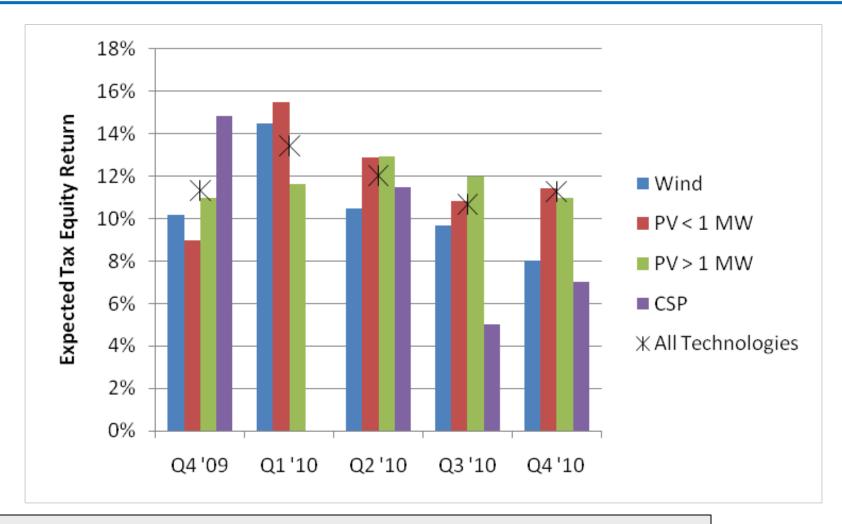
## **Expected Return on Tax-Investor Equity**



Very tight bandwidth for wind projects indicates technology maturity. Much wider for small PV and geothermal indicates investor uncertainty



## **Expected Return on Tax Equity - Trend**

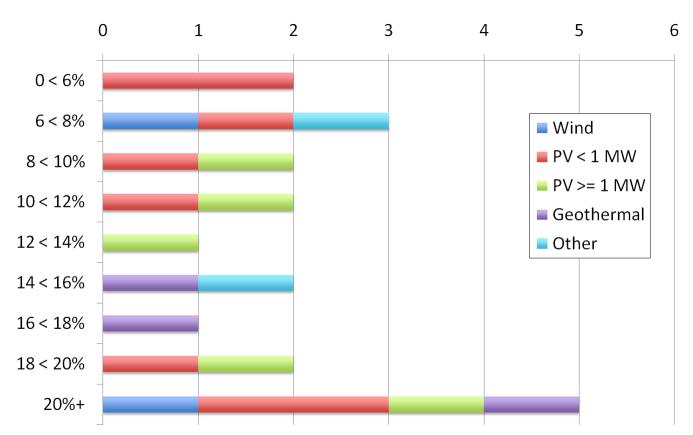


Expected tax equity yields increased after Q4 '09 but have since moderated to about 11%. Wind TE significantly less expensive than PV. CSP #s are suspect.



# **Expected Return on Developer Equity**

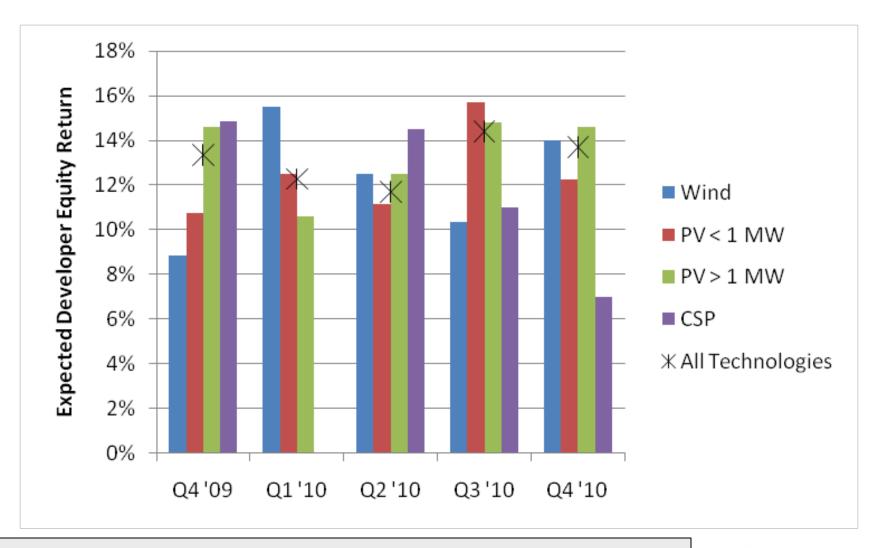




Developer commonly expect returns of 20% or more (for all technologies) but also expect modest returns in many cases



## **Expected Return on Developer Equity**



Average expected returns on developer equity generally runs in the 12-14% range. No clear trend by technology or over analysis period.



## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q12**

12. Regarding project-level CONSTRUCTION debt, please tell us how your projects are generally structured...

|                              | Nature of Const. Debt | Ratio of Const. Debt /<br>Total Capital | Average All-In Cost of Const. Debt (%) | Const. Debt Term<br>(months) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| Wind                         | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)          | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)         | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Solar - CSP                  | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Solar Thermal (non-<br>elec) | ~                     | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Geothermal                   | ~                     | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Biomass - Elec               | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Biomass - Non-elec           | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Hydro                        | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Other Technologies           | <b>v</b>              | ~                                       | ~                                      | ~                            |
| Comments                     |                       |   |  |                              |
|                              |                       |   | <u>^</u>                               |                              |

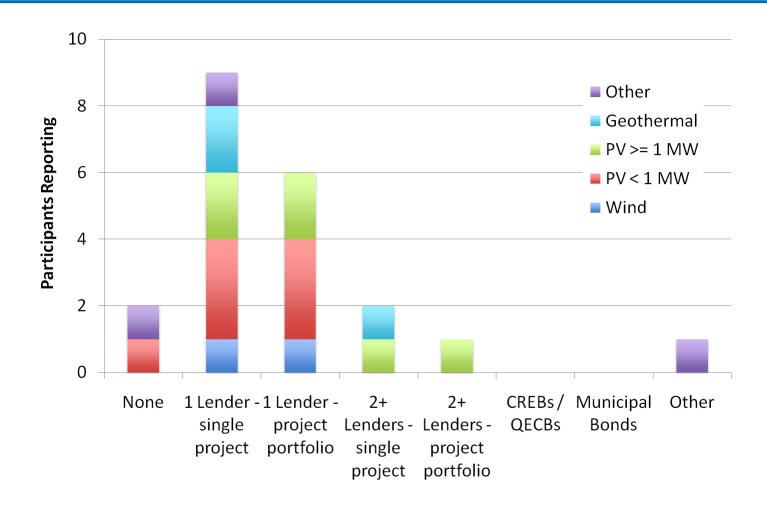


## **REFTI Questionnaire: Q13**

13. Regarding project-level TERM debt, please tell us how your projects are generally structured...

|                                 | Source of Debt | Ratio of Debt /<br>Total Capital | Ratio of Fed<br>Loan<br>Guarantee /<br>Debt | Avg. All-In Cost<br>of Debt (%) | Debt Term<br>(yrs) | Avg. Debt<br>Coverage Ratio<br>Required |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Wind                            | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Solar - PV (<<br>1 MW)          | <u> </u>       | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Solar - PV<br>(>= 1 MW)         | <u> </u>       | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Solar - CSP                     | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Solar<br>Thermal (non<br>-elec) | <b>Y</b>       | ~                                | ~   | <b>Y</b>                        | <b>V</b>           | Y                                       |
| Geothermal                      | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Biomass -<br>Elec               | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Biomass -<br>Non-elec           | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Hydro                           | ~              | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Other<br>Technologies           | <u> </u>       | ~                                | ~   | ~                               | ~                  | ~                                       |
| Comments                        |                |                                  |   |                                 | <b>.</b>           |   |

### **Source of Term Debt**

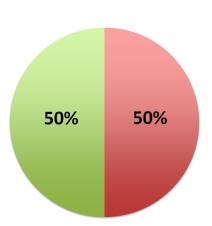


Large PV and geothermal projects referenced multi-bank "club" deals

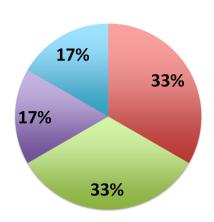


### **Source of Term Debt**

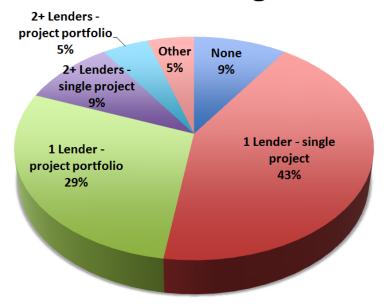
#### Wind



#### PV > 1MW

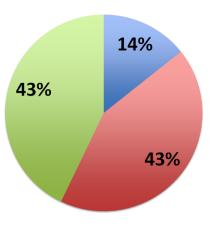


### **All Technologies**

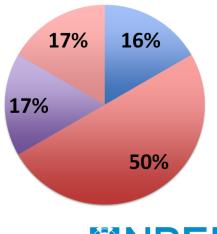


Most commonly, REFTI projects had single lender, single project form of debt. Single lender, project portfolio also common

#### **PV < 1MW**

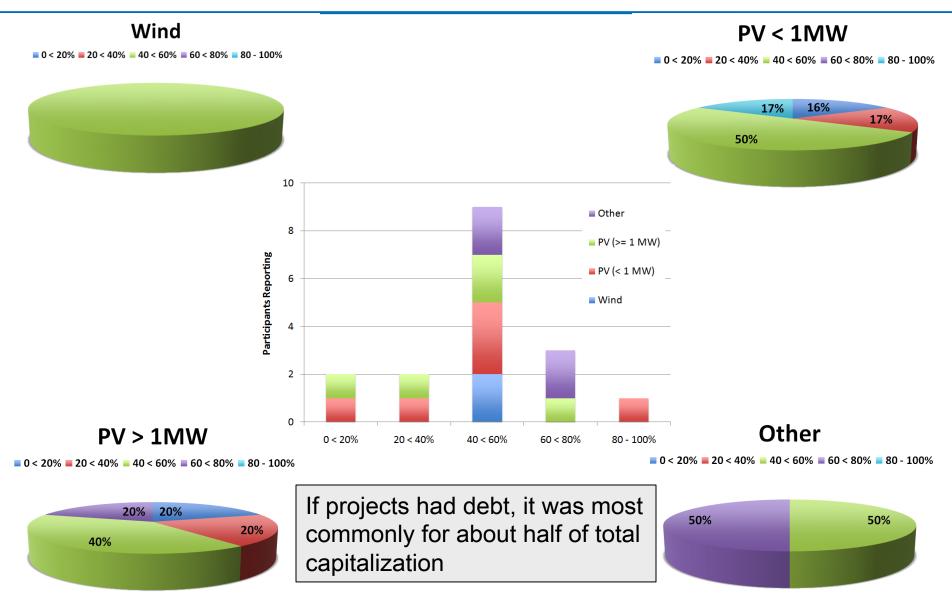


### Other

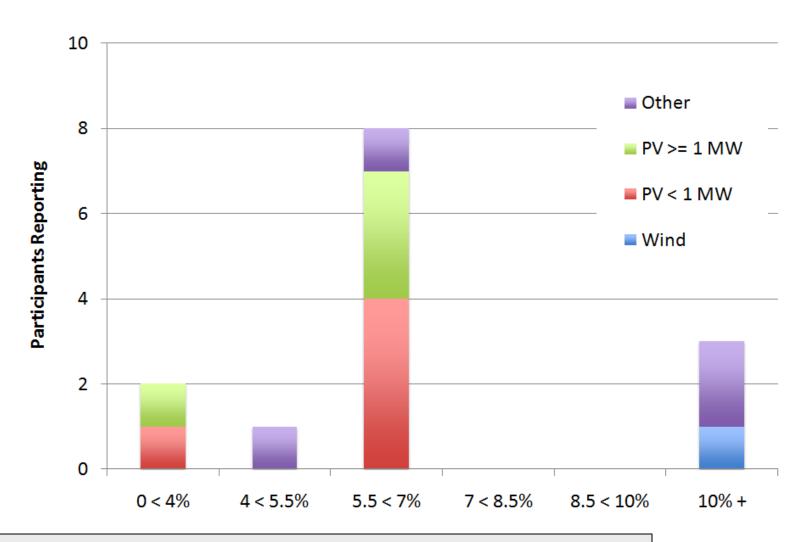


## **Term Debt as % of Total CapEx**





## **Cost of Term Debt (all-in)**



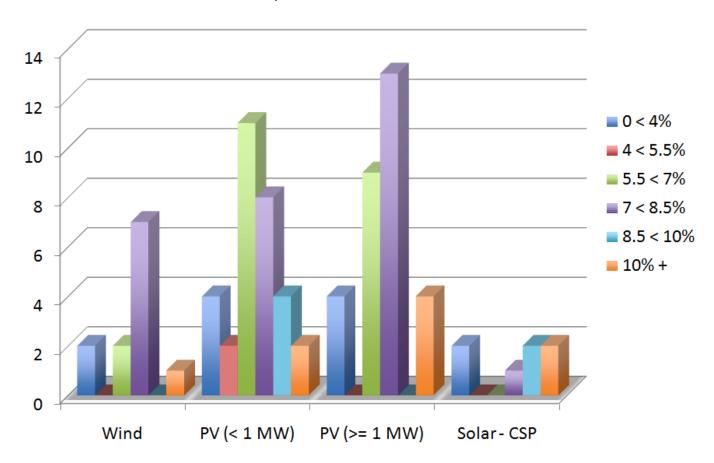
Most commonly in the 5.5% - 7.0% range in Q4 2010, but participants reporting very wide range



## Cost of Term Debt (all-in) - Aggregate

#### **Average All-In Cost of Term Debt**

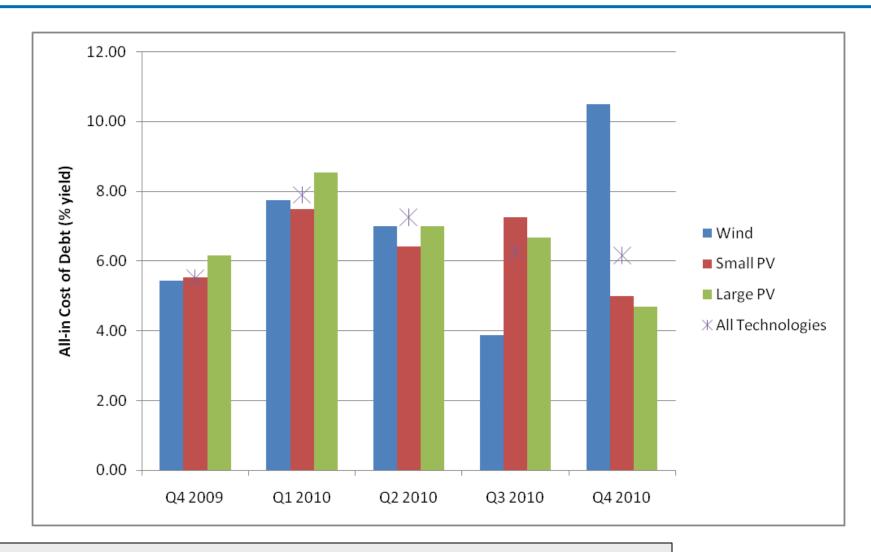
Cumulative Responses from Q4 '09 thru Q4 '10



Aggregate cost of debt over past 5 quarters by technology



## Cost of Term Debt (all-in) – Trend Analysis

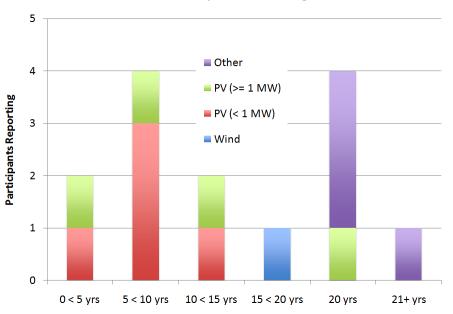


High variability in debt rates referenced for wind projects. All technologies' cost of debt declining since Q1 2010



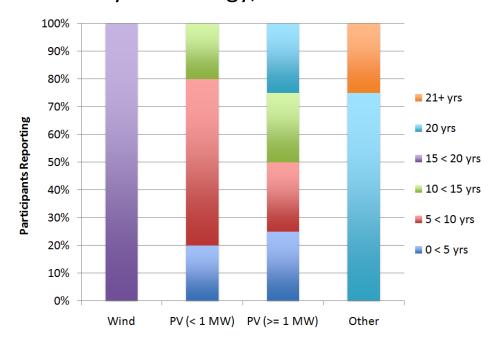
### **Term Debt Duration**





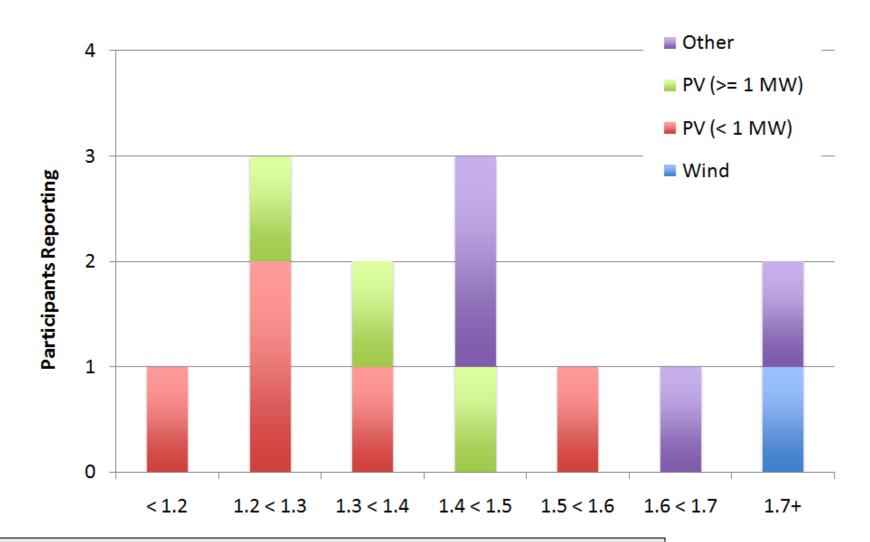
Small PV most commonly around 5-10 years, all under 15 years. 20+ year debt for all other technologies including geothermal and solar CSP

#### by technology, scaled to 100%





### **Debt Service Coverage Ratios Required**



Min debt coverage ratios most commonly in the 1.2 - 1.3x range for small PV, in the 1.4 - 1.5x range for other technologies



### **REFTI Questionnaire: Q14**

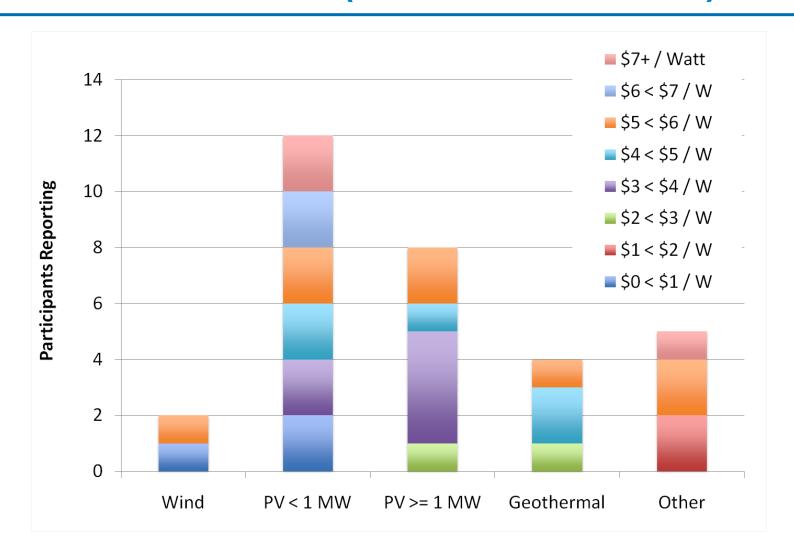
14. Provide the average INSTALLED COSTS (before incentives) and LEVELIZED COST OF ENERGY (LCOE) (after incentives) from your projects

(LCOE is generally the present value of costs divided by the present value of energy delivered)

|                          | Installed Costs (\$ / Watt - net output) | LCOE (¢/kWh) |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|
| Wind                     | ~  | ~            |
| Solar - PV (< 1 MW)      | ~  | ~            |
| Solar - PV (>= 1 MW)     | <b>✓</b>                                 | <b>▼</b>     |
| Solar - CSP              | ~  | ~            |
| Solar Thermal (non-elec) | ~  | <b>▼</b>     |
| Geothermal               | ~  | ~            |
| Biomass - Elec           | <b>✓</b>                                 | <b>▼</b>     |
| Biomass - Non-elec       | •  | •            |
| Hydro                    | <b>✓</b>                                 | <b>▼</b>     |
| Other Technologies       | ~  | ~            |
| Comments                 |  |              |
|                          |  | _            |
|                          |  | ~            |



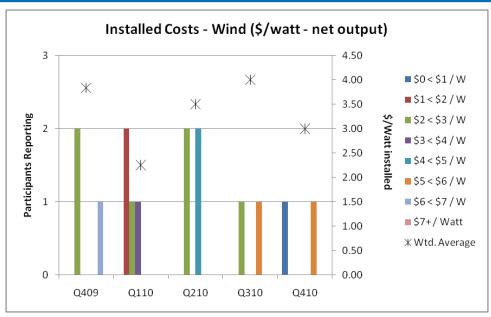
### **Installed Costs (before incentives)**



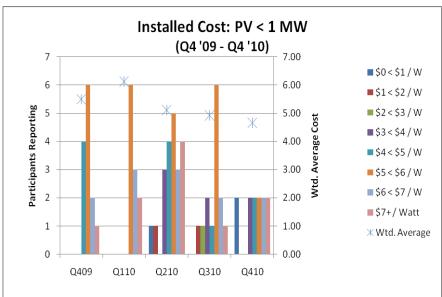
Very wide range for small PV reported, large PV most commonly in the \$3-\$4 range

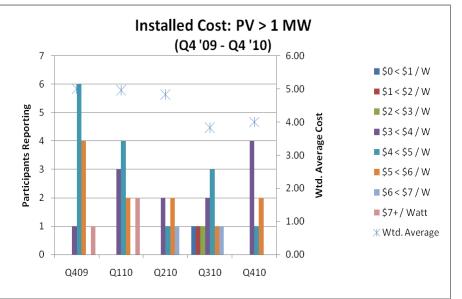


### **Installed Costs – Trend Analysis**

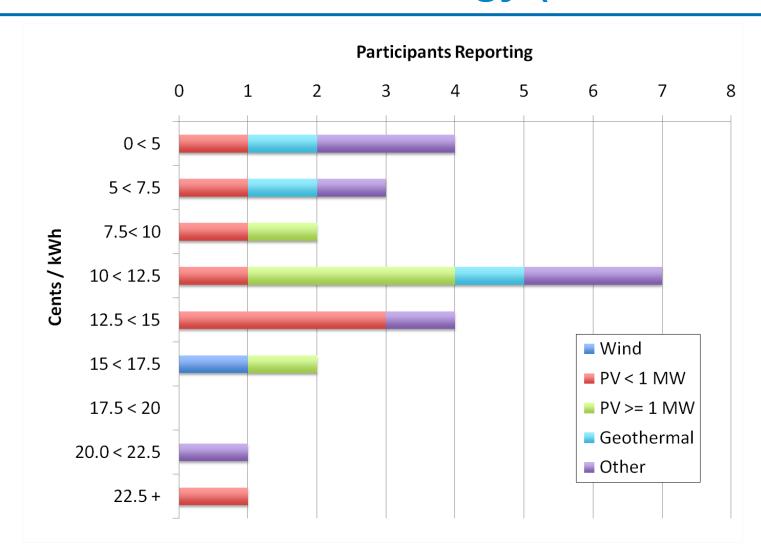


Installed costs for wind shows no pattern, higher than expected values. Small and large PV show declines over prior 5 quarters to just under \$5 and \$4, respectively





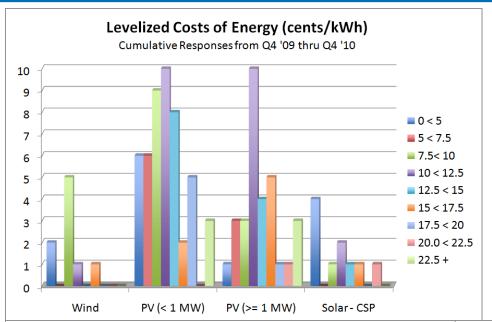
## Levelized Cost of Energy (cents/kWh)



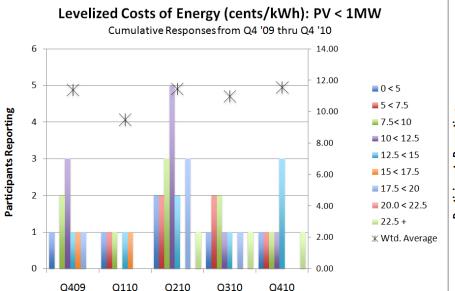
RE projects most commonly reporting LCOE's in the 10.0 - 12.5 cents/kWh range (after incentives).

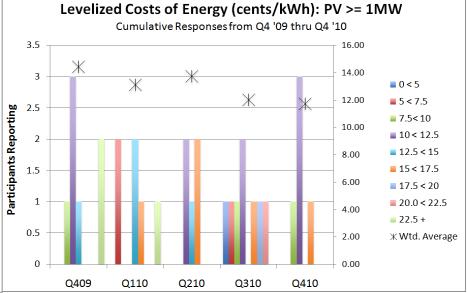


### **LCOE – Aggregate & Trend Results**



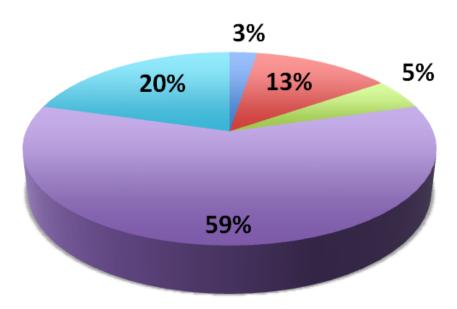
Top figure – aggregate
LCOE. Bottom figures –
trend for small and large PV
with weighted averages.
LCOEs for large PV appear
to be declining; small PV
trend is increasing





### **REFTI Questionnaire: Bonus Q1 (Q15)**

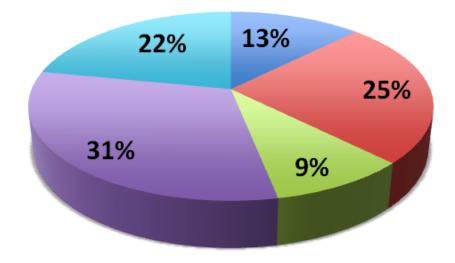
#### What is your experience with Master Finance Facilities (MFFs)?



- I develop projects through a MFF (if so, pls comment on form and usefulness)
- Tried, but not successfully (lack of project experience or projects are too small)
- Tried, but not successfully (my technology is considered too risky)
- Never heard of them
- I'm not a developer/NA

# **REFTI Questionnaire: Bonus Q2 (Q16)**

#### Could Methods to Aggregate projects such as MFFs have a significant impact on your ability to raise capital?



- Yes, MFFs are a significant breakthrough
- Yes, but MFFs are not the answer. We need a method to securitize projects similar to the mortgage market.
- No, my projects are too unique to be aggregated
- No, I don't need assistance raising capital (and/or don't want to subsidize another developer with less experience)
- Other

## Thank you!

We appreciate your participation!

REFTI results and presentations available at:

http://financere.nrel.gov/finance/REFTI

REFTI H1 2011 coming out soon

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